Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 24, 25 and 28-31 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a first region including a neighborhood of an end of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the first ink droplet without ejection of the second ink droplet to the first region;

generating image data, corresponding to a second region including a central portion of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the second ink droplet without ejection of the first ink droplet to the second region;

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet to the first region based on the image data corresponding to the first region; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet to the second region based on the image data corresponding to the second region.

21. (Previously Presented) A recording method according to Claim 20, wherein the

first region includes a region outside of the recording medium.

22. (Previously Presented) A recording method according to Claim 20, wherein the first region includes a region on the recording medium.

23. (Previously Presented) A recording method according to Claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a third region between the first region and the second region, for allowing ejection of the first and second ink droplets to the third region; and

causing the recording head to eject the first and second ink droplets to the third region based on the image data corresponding to the third region.

24.-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A recording method for recording an image on a recording medium by using a recording head capable of ejecting a first ink droplet and a second ink droplet of a size smaller than that of the first ink droplet, said method comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a first region outside of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the first ink droplet without ejection of the second ink droplet to the first region;

generating image data, corresponding to a second region including a central portion of the recording medium, for allowing ejection of the second ink droplet without ejection of the first ink droplet to the second region;

causing the recording head to eject the first ink droplet to the first region based on the image data corresponding to the first region; and

causing the recording head to eject the second ink droplet to the second region based on the image data corresponding to the second region.

27. (Previously Presented) A recording method according to Claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

generating image data, corresponding to a third region between the first region and the second region, for allowing ejection of the first and second ink droplets to the third region; and

causing the recording head to eject the first and second ink droplets to the third region based on the image data corresponding to the third region.

28.-31. (Cancelled)